

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SCCT-01 IO-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 ARA-06 DHA-02

EB-07 ACDA-05 /108 W

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R 291410Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2819

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1458

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO

SUBJECT: LIBYAN POSITION ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 303313

1. LIBYA CONTINUES TO HEW TO THE OAU LINE ON ANGOLA AND TO AVOID TAKING SIDES AMONG THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. A FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ISSUED DECEMBER 28 ON THE SUBJECT CONFINED ITSELF TO A CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION, CITING UN AND OAU RESOLUTIONS, AND POINTED OUT DEFENSIVELY AND CURIOUSLY THAT "OF COURSE, LIBYA IS THE ONLY COUNTRY WHICH BOYCOTTS SOUTH AFRICA AND DOES NOT ALLOW SOUTH AFRICAN PLANES TO CROSS INTO LIBYAN AIR SPACE. ALSO, LIBYA GIVES ALL SORTS OF SUPPORT TO THE STRUGGLERS IN SOUTH AFRICA TO CONTINUE THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE RACIST SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME". THE STATEMENT DID NOT REFER DIRECTLY EITHER TO THE

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U.S. ROLE OR TO SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION.

2. NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MATTALAB HAS BEEN HERE TWICE WITHIN THE LAST THREE
WEEKS, PRESUMABLY TO LOBBY FOR RECOGNITION OF THE
MPLA. HE WAS FOLLOWED CLOSELY ON HIS FIRST VISIT BY THE
FOREIGN MINISTER OF ZAIRE. NIGERIAN IS NOW BACK IN TRIPOLI
AGAIN, AND ON DECEMBER 26 HE HAD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER JALLUD.
WE ARE INCLINED TO SEE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT,
WITH ITS STRANGELY DEFENSIVE TONE, AS A REACTION TO
NIGERIAN PRESSURE.

3. DURING CALL DECEMBER 28 ON NAJIB SHAYBANI, DIRECTOR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AT MFA, CHARGE
ASKED ABOUT THE LIBYAN POSITION, SHAYBANI REFERRED TO THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT, AND CONFIRMED THAT IT MEANS
THAT LIBYA WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE THE MPLA OR THE
OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION,
SHAYBANI SAID THAT LIBYA SUPPORTED THE CONVENING OF AN OAU
SUMMIT TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM, BUT WAS NOT SURE WHETHER THE
REQUIRED NUMBER OF OAU MEMBER STATES HAD AGREED TO HOLD
A SUMMIT. CHARGE REFERRED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PRESS
CONFERENCE OF DECEMBER 23, WHICH SHAYBANI SAID HE HAD READ.
SHAYBANI SAID LIBYAN POSITION WAS THAT PROBLEM SHOULD
BE SETTLED IN AN AFRICAN CONTEXT, WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERVENTION,
AND CHARGE NOTED THAT THIS WAS ALSO U.S. POSITION.
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